

News Release

UMC Climbs in Rankings as “Best Public College” in U.S. News & World Report - Ninth Consecutive Time UMC Ranked in the Top Three in Midwest

By Elizabeth Tollefson, Krista Lemos on Friday, August 18, 2006



CROOKSTON, MN (August 18, 2006) – U.S. News & World Report named the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) one of the best comprehensive public colleges in the Midwest for a ninth consecutive year, as UMC advanced to second in the standings. UMC is among the top colleges in the category “Top Public Midwest Comprehensive Colleges – Bachelor’s” for 2007.

The rankings were made public Friday, Aug. 18, 2006, at the U.S. News Web site at [www.usnews.com](http://www.usnews.com). UMC will be recognized in the Aug. 28 issue of the U.S. News & World Report's 2007 edition of America's Best Colleges, available on newsstands Monday, Aug. 21.

UMC Chancellor Charles H. Casey said the campus community is pleased with the move up in the U.S. News rankings. “This recognition as a 'best public college' is a credit to the dedication of our exceptional students, faculty and staff. The University of Minnesota, Crookston is committed to offering the best education while fostering a culture that supports a positive learning environment and outstanding experience for our students. This is an affirmation of our continued progress and our commitment to helping our students succeed.”

The campus has celebrated a number of accomplishments over the past year including the recent full 10-year continued accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission, which gave UMC the ability to expand e-learning offerings. New online degrees in business and manufacturing management are scheduled to come online in spring 2007.

Enhanced on-site bachelor's degrees in horticulture and agronomy are also being offered this fall, and Centennial Hall, a new residence hall with apartment-style living, will welcome its first students on August 26, 2006. In addition, after much work by the Strategic Positioning Task Force, UMC has drafted recommendations and is working on a plan to put those into place to strengthen the core education, research, and outreach mission of the University.

UMC's category in the U.S. News rankings, Top Public Comprehensive Colleges – Bachelor's, is comprised of institutions that focus on undergraduate education and offer a range of degree programs – in the liberal arts, which account for fewer than half of their bachelor's degrees, and in professional fields such as business, nursing and education.

The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) delivers more than 24 different undergraduate degree programs in agriculture; arts, humanities, and social sciences; business; math, science, and technology; and natural resources. UMC is dedicated to helping students and the region aim higher, reach further, and dream big dreams. To learn more, visit [www.UMCrookston.edu](http://www.UMCrookston.edu).

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